



Lower Park Lower Park Beacon

Issue
538
Fri 18th
Sept
2020

Dear Parents,

The Lunch Bunch!

I am pleased to say that lunchtimes have been running smoother this week and the number of children staying for a school lunch has increased. Mrs Laffey still cooks roast joints and yesterday the roast chicken was delightful and to have Harry Ramsden's fish and chips was wonderful last week.

Just to remind you, KS2 do not need to order beforehand but we need parents of children in Mrs Cunha, Miss Booth, Mrs O'Hara and Mrs Marshall's classes, to return their completed paper copy of the menu by Friday. This week, we have itemised the types of drinks and fruit that are options on the menu for KS1 & FS.



Children in KS2 have quite enjoyed eating their lunch in the classrooms, especially as it actually gives them more time to play outside. The meals arrive at the classroom like 'meals on wheels.'

Whilst Mrs Laffey and the kitchen staff produce so many superb meals promptly and to a high standard (even Gordon Ramsey would be impressed), a special mention should also be made to our midday assistants, who have developed efficient ways to ensure that the children are safe, wash hands before and after eating and then play happily outside in their bubble area. With the teachers also serving meals, lunchtime is a great team effort from the 'lunch bunch' - well done!

Hazelbadge Road



I am sure that parents will have noticed the official 'no parking' cones that have been delivered to the school by Cheshire Highways, who support our closure of the road twice a day.

A Request from Mr Malpas:

It would appear that dogs have been keen to mark their territory by raising their legs up against the new parking cones. Whilst it is likely that it is from dogs whose owners are not parents, please take extra care of your dog when passing the cones - Mr Malpas (and I) will be very grateful.

There have also been a few sharp confrontations between dogs in passing that have worried children seeing and hearing their barking. There are some lovely dogs and it is a public highway, but please take extra care that this doesn't happen.

They're Off!!



The first meeting of the PTA took place via Zoom on Monday. I am very pleased to say that the PTA is very much alive and well - despite Covid!

The challenge of organising events under the current restrictions, has not deterred them. We may not be able to have our popular events in the same way this term, but there are alternatives including the one further down called 'New PTA Event' and the news of other events will be made known to you soon.

The PTA fulfils two vital roles for the school; one to enhance the community and make special things happen for the children in the school (such as film night, art exhibitions, discos, fairs, circuses etc) which the children look forward to, but also to raise much needed funds for the school to use. In the present climate, when schools are having to spend beyond their income funding to keep safe, our PTA has just increased the allowance given to each teacher to provide much needed classroom resources. Usually, this is £200 per class, but this year, the PTA has raised that to £300. At the same time, it has paid £700 for a dyslexia testing programme. A huge thank you to the remarkable Lower Park PTA.



Of course, we need to keep on providing social events for the school so children have them to enjoy and also to raise funds. If you would like to get on board with the PTA, please email the chair of the PTA on charlf@hotmail.co.uk

They Are Also Off!!

Yesterday, the first meeting of the school council took place during the afternoon. The school councillors were democratically elected by each class and there are two members per class.



During the meeting, they were inaugurated with a school council badge to wear, and during the meeting, they discovered how the school council works. The councillors were asked to consider being nominated as the chair of the school council, vice-chair, secretary and assistant secretary. Those interested were asked to prepare a speech for the next meeting to convince the other voting members of the school council to vote for them.

**Music Taster Evening for Children
in Key Stage 2
The Show *Did* Go On – Just!**

Having said in last week's Beacon, 'The show must go on!' the show almost didn't go on, due to a technical hitch. However, a quick swap with computers saw very excited children's faces appear on the Zoom screen. This was matched with some wonderful demonstrations and music solos played by our peripatetic music teachers who had prepared so thoroughly for the meeting in order to encourage the children to play a musical instrument. The only difference in this year's taster evening, was that the children did not have the chance to try out the instruments.



Even that has been addressed with the teachers offering some trial instruments and finding innovating ways to begin learning to play an instrument, that included; playing any tune you wish on just a brass mouthpiece, a pair of drumsticks playing pans and cushions and a fife flute. Some guitars and clarinets are also available to loan.

As a reminder, if your child would like to have lessons, which are currently by Zoom at home and outside of the school day, please email Mrs Mellor on:
amellor@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
Please write your child's name and what instrument they would like to play.

Commendation Awards



Commendation Awards are presented to children on Mondays in assembly. The staff, including midday assistants, nominate children (one from each class and one from the midday assistants) each week and they receive a commendation badge. They also receive a certificate which is displayed on the internal noticeboard outside my room. After a week, the certificates are given to the children to bring home to keep. They are used to promote exceptional attitude, approach to work, exceptional kindness, behaviour, helpfulness, consideration and attitude. The awards this week were focused on beginning the term 'in the right way.'

This week's winners were:

Harriet L, George C, Harry E, Owen W, Bea K, Harrison G, Summer S, Isabel H, Martha J, Brodie C and Aoife S.

Well done to all those children!

World Rainbow Day



We are excited to tell you that on Friday 2nd October, Lower Park School will be taking part in World Rainbow Day. This is a new event that has been created in recognition of the extraordinary people that have helped and supported all of us during these unusual times. It is also a time to remember anyone who has been directly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, we are planning a day full of learning, reflection and fun, all inspired by the rainbow, which has been recognised throughout the country as a symbol of gratitude, respect and admiration for our NHS and other key workers. We would therefore ask that the children come to school out of uniform on this date. Instead we would like them to wear as many

colours of the rainbow as possible! We would ask however, that they still wear clothes and shoes that they can comfortably play outside in and bring a warm coat.

We would also ask that the children bring in a (voluntary) donation of £1 which we will put towards a new charity 'Design Havens for Heroes', which has been set up to show ongoing support and gratitude to our wonderful keyworkers in the NHS. If you would like to find out more about this charity and the work that it does, or about World Rainbow Day as a whole, you can read more at: www.worldrainbowday.org

PTA Lotto Results catch up!



The Lotto draws continued throughout lockdown and the winners were as follows :-

April 2020

1st Amy Cusick
2nd Richard Singleton
3rd Kath Bailey

May

1st Joyce Porter
2nd Paul Evans
3rd Nick Langdon

June

1st Carrie Grainger
2nd Jane Langdon
3rd Derrol Waring

July

1st Faye Peart
2nd Nick cantello
3rd Derrol Waring

August

1st Leanne Peasnall
2nd Ian Coulson
3rd Phil Lynch

September

1st Rob McKinlay
2nd Kath Bailey
3rd Charlotte Fazackerley

An easy way to help the school raise funds, whilst even winning your money back, would be to join the LP Lotto (even I can win it!). If you would like to buy a number, please contact Pip Langdon on 07791 405247 or email to: pippalangdon@hotmail.co.uk

New PTA Event

Virtual Balloon Race

With the current COVID situation, we are having to adapt our usual PTA fundraising initiatives. This also gives us an opportunity to try new things!



This year, we have chosen to run a virtual balloon race. Just £3 gets you a balloon entered in the race. You can purchase as many balloons as you like – and can get friends, family and neighbours involved too. The race will last 7 days, and you can track all progress online. No actual balloons are used, so this is an environmentally friendly event that can be done from the comfort of your home. Prizes will be available for the balloons that travel the furthest distance in the 7 days. Full details about the event will be included in future editions of the Beacon, as well as the first edition of the PTA newsletter due out in a few weeks' time. Keep your eyes peeled!

Updated COVID-19 Guidance for Parents Important and Useful

I have attached a poster that has just been issued by Cheshire East. It is in response to requests to give clear guidance for parents about symptoms and testing. It makes it clear what action you should take. It is the guidance that we adhere to, as it summarises the latest DFE guidelines

Reminders

Lunch Menus

Lunch menus for KS1 & FS will be emailed home on Wednesdays for the following week. We ask you to send in the completed paper copy on Fridays. KS2 can order their choices at morning registration.

A menu will be attached to the Beacon each week.

Forgetting items

We can no longer take items to classes if they have been forgotten in a morning. Please ensure your child has everything they need for the day (including 2 bottles filled with water). However, if it is a forgotten lunchbox, we will provide a school lunch for your child that day and request that you pay for the meal.

Letters this Week

- None this week

This Week in School

- The first PTA meeting of the year took place on Monday (see above for more details).
- The school council met for the first time this academic year on Thursday (see item above).
- The music taster evening went ahead yesterday evening, not quite as normal, but with an innovative twist (see above).
- Today, we had our first fire safety evacuation drill under the new Covid-19 conditions. We are using the field as an assembly point to ensure distancing.

Next Week in School

- Next week is a relatively quiet week in school (hopefully). Children have 'recovered' and adapted so well to being back in school so far and they are keen to progress their learning.

After-school activities taking place – Autumn Term 2020

	On or Off?	Activity	Time	Yr Group	Venue	Organiser
--	------------	----------	------	----------	-------	-----------

After-school activities will not commence for a short while

Diary Dates for the first half of the Autumn Term 2020

Date	Event
Thurs 1 October	School Census Day – no action needed
Thurs 1	New Intake Zoom meeting for parents at 7.00pm
Thurs 1 *	World Languages Day (details of activities to follow)
Fri 2 *	World Rainbow Day (see above)
Mon 5	Chairs of the Governing Body at 6.30pm
Mon 5	Full Governors' meeting 7.00pm
Mon 12	Pupil & Curric Govs at 6.30pm
Mon 12	Environ & Comm Govs at 7.45pm
Mon 19 *	In-school Siblings & Individual photographs am
Mon 19	Personnel Govs' meeting 6.30pm
Mon 19	Finance Govs' meeting at 7.45pm
Tues 20	Parents' Evening Zoom meetings
Weds 21	Parents' evening Zoom meetings
Fri 23	Harvest Festival Loom assembly (KS2)
Fri 23	School closes for half term
Mon 2 November	Review Day – staff and governors
Tues 3	School reopens after half-term

*Further activities are being planned for this term and will be added to the list above
Every effort will be made not to change dates however, if necessary, any changes/ additions are highlighted.
TBC means To be confirmed. TBF means To be Finalised.*

School Calendar Dates 2020 – 2021

	<u>SCHOOL CLOSURES</u>	<u>SCHOOL OPENS</u>
Autumn Half Term 2020	Friday 23 rd October	Tuesday 3 rd November
Christmas 2020/21	Friday 18th December	Monday 4th January 2021
Spring Half Term 2021	Friday 12th February	Tuesday 23rd February
Easter 2021	Thursday 1st April	Monday 19th April
May Day 2021	Monday 3rd May	
Summer Half Term 2021	Friday 28th May	Monday 14th June
Summer 2021	Friday 23rd July	

INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st September 2020, Monday 2nd November 2020, Monday 22nd February 2021,
Monday 26th July 2021, Tuesday 27th July 2021

If you would like to join our email distribution list and receive the Lower Park Beacon by email, you need to inform me of your email address. Your email address will not appear when the Beacon is delivered and it is protected by the data protection policy here in school. So why not join our growing number of parents receiving email Beacons? Just write to me via email. My email address is: head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
The Lower Park Beacon is also available to read on our School Website at: www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk

Kind regards Ian Coulson and the Staff at Lower Park

My School Lunch Menu

Week commencing 21st September 2020

School Meals are free for Reception & KS1 and £2.35 for a larger portion in KS2

Please pay online at www.schoolmoney.co.uk

Please choose one item from each section and remember to indicate which filling you would like for your sandwich/potato

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Fish Fillet & Jacket Wedges	Southern Style Chicken Bap & Sauté Potatoes	Vegetable Sausage Roll & Jacket Wedges	Gammon Baguette & Sauté Potatoes	Hot Dog Sausage & Chips
Wrap Ham Tuna Cheese	Quorn Bap & Sauté Potatoes	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Quorn Baguette & Sauté Potatoes	Quorn Dog & Chips
Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese
Shortbread	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Melting Moment	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks
Fruit	Vanilla Sponge Fruit	Fruit	Lemon Bite Fruit	Doughnut Fruit